

MEETING SUMMARY, FORMER NANSEMOND ORDNANCE DEPOT (FNOD) RESTORATION ADVISORY BOARD (RAB)

To: RAB Members, Interested Parties
From: Adriane James, U.S. Army Corps Government Co-Chair
Sandra Chaloux, CEC, Inc., RAB Facilitator
Re: March 1, 2007 RAB Meeting Summary

RAB Members Present: Adriane James Bruce Johnson Don McDaniel for Victor D'Ortona Stephen Mihalko Lynn Bartleit for Tom O'Grady Marian "Bea" Rogers David Saunders Rob Thomson Cherie Walton Bob Williams	Affiliation: USACE, Govt. Co-Chair Respass Beach Ashley Capital VDEQ City of Suffolk Community Co-Chair Bennett's Creek EPA Reactivities Management Corporation Dominion
RAB Facilitator Present: Sandra Chaloux	CEC, Inc.
RAB Members Absent: Tim Fink Steve Hill Kemp Littlefield	TCC GE Lockheed Martin

Introduction and Welcome/Call to Order (6:17 p.m)

(Sandra Chaloux – CEC, Inc.)

The meeting was called to order and the meeting attendees introduced themselves.
No corrections were noted on the meeting summary from the last meeting.

RAB Business

Government and Community Co Chair Comments (Adriane James & Bea Rogers)

Adriane (Government Co-Chair) had no comments. Bea asked the RAB members if they felt they had lost touch with the work that is going on at the site and whether they were satisfied with the number of RAB meetings they have now (quarterly). Last year, the RAB met 6 times a year. The RAB members indicated that they were satisfied with the quarterly meeting schedule.

RAB Membership

Bea asked if anyone had contacted the Corps indicating an interest in joining the RAB. Sandra said that she received a contact from the newsletter and that she mailed the gentlemen information about this RAB meeting and the RAB. Adriane said that she had spoken with Jason Greene before the RAB meeting. She said he is interested in joining the RAB and had a completed RAB application form with him. Sandra announced that Carl Serrette resigned after the last RAB meeting. Bea said that she spoke with Carl about it and although he enjoyed serving on the RAB, he is no longer employed with the Burbage Grant community association and felt that it would be better if there was someone else from that community serving on the RAB. Bea suggested that we could post an ad in the Burbage Grant newsletter to see if anyone responds. Bruce Johnson also said that there is a gentleman that he works with who is also associated with the Burbage Grant association. Bruce said that he would talk to his co-worker about the RAB. Sandra pointed out that there are now only four community members serving on the RAB. (The rest are landowner representatives or government representatives.) Sandra suggested that

perhaps it would be good to have a TCC student serving on the RAB. Bea suggested that we post a one-page notice on the TCC campus bulletin board.

Sandra invited Jason Greene to tell the RAB about himself and his interest in joining the RAB. Jason said he lives in Driver and was born and raised in Suffolk. He works for DEQ, the Tidewater office. He said that he is interested in the RAB because he is interested in the environment and the actual parcel of land over there and in seeing what happens in the future.

Sandra asked if any of the RAB members would want to take on the recruiting effort for new RAB members in any of the new neighborhoods surrounding the site. Bea offered to place flyers at the local banks and grocery stores. Gerry and Sandra will draft a flyer. Cherie asked who at the City would know the names of the new subdivisions. Mr. Bartleit suggested that we work with the planning department. The assistant director of planning is Cindy Taylor. He said that she should be able to direct us to the person who could give us the names of the new neighborhoods. George Mears pointed out that we really don't have any RAB representatives from that north shore area. He said that it has been built up so quickly, and a lot of those homes are starting to be occupied. Bea volunteered to call Cindy. Bea said that we could also post a notice on the Suffolk cable channel, the Access Channel. She suggested that our notice indicate that we are seeking residents from the northern part of the city. She said that the reason why is because if we get people that are too far away, they're going to lose interest very quickly.

Bob Williams asked if we were able to identify a new VDOT representative for the RAB. Michael Ispier no longer works for VDOT. Sandra said that she had contacted the original VDOT representative who served on the RAB about it but had not heard back from him yet.

Cherie Walton pointed out that the RAB was now 10 years old this year. She asked whether the RAB should do something special to celebrate.

Landowner Updates

Dominion – None.

City of Suffolk – The City is collecting proposals from developers for that area. Bea asked if the city had installed a fence around the site to prevent dumping at the site. Lynn said that it has not happened. Lynn said that he imagined that the cost to do that would be prohibitive. George reiterated that the pesticide drum area was probably the result of somebody just coming in and dropping some drums off. George pointed out that if another dumping were to occur on the city's parcel, that the Corps would not be responsible this time for cleaning it up. Lynn said that he would make this an agenda item at the March 14th Suffolk Industrial Development Authority board meeting.

Ashley Capital – Don said that GE had removed the old GE water tower from their property. He said that his company was working hard to clean up and modernize the building. He said that he had met with George Mears earlier that day to discuss future possible alternatives for the site. He said that Ashley is very aggressively trying to become an active part of the community and are really excited to be in Suffolk. Don said that the property is going to include warehousing distribution and low-impact activities.

Army Corps Update (George Mears - U.S. Army Corps)

George Mears provided 3 handouts to the RAB: an updated FNOD Site Summary Spreadsheet, an FNOD Master Schedule Chart, and an updated FNOD project sequencing & initiation status table.

FNOD Budget (George Mears, USACE Project Manager)

George told the RAB that we're under a continuing resolution. The Department of Defense budget has not been passed. In 2006, the project was funded about \$1.3 million for MMRP (military munitions response program) work. This year the FNOD project will get around \$1.7 million for MMRP work. George pointed out that last year the Corps undertook a great deal of fieldwork. This year the Corps will be working on generating reports. The project will be receiving less money this year for environmental investigation work around \$1.7 million. George said that the FNOD project should have sufficient funds this year.

Site Management Plan Revisions (George Mears, USACE Project Manager)

The Horseshoe Pond work will take two more years than originally estimated because of the adjacent arsenic investigation. Since there is a possibility that the arsenic investigation may be related to the Horseshoe Pond area, the Corps has to complete the arsenic investigation first to know whether or not it is safe to close out the Horseshoe Pond.

The James River Beachfront investigation requires another round of sampling which will cause the estimated schedule for this project to shift out one more year. The Corps hopes to complete the Track K Record of Decision by this summer and the Pesticide Drum area Record of Decision by the end of 2008. Tentatively, the Corps hopes to be able to hold the public meeting on the Pesticide Drum Area Proposed Plan by the end of the calendar year 2007.

George said that the timetable for starting the Group D Areas of Concern (AOCs) investigations will also shift to FY08. These are the sites by Streeter Creek on the east side of I-644. The Corps has either completed or initiated active investigations at all the other sites. The Corps had hoped to get the Group D AOCs under contract by the end of this year; however, the money that the Corps had hoped to use, had to be used to address added requirements at various active investigation sites instead. George said that the Corps hopes to initiate the last three AOC investigations next year.

Bea asked why the Track K dump timeline needed to be extended. George said that the Corps had to do another iteration of fieldwork (a separate Risk Assessment) which added another year to the project.

George also pointed out that more RI field work is needed in the Main Burning Ground area. It takes about 6 months for the field effort, data validation, and report write up but this won't start until the munitions removal work is completed there first. Then the Corps has to incorporate the findings into the original report.

Sites Added:

- Nansemond River Beachfront (NRB) added as NPL Source Area, due to discovery of bulk TNT in the environment.
- No "new" HTRW sites added but some reorganization

Sites Deleted:

- AOC 16 (Former Steam Heating Plant)
- AOC 13 (Former WWTP area). Will be incorporated into AOC 1 (NRB)
- AOC 19 (TCE Investigation area) to be incorporated into Source Area 2 (JRB)

The Corps will also be updating the map figures in the SMP and adding additional figures. George pointed out that the Land Use Control figure shows the areas where ordnance has been found. These areas will always be restricted for residential use. This will be helpful to city planners so they know where only light industrial or office buildings will be allowed. George said that he would be happy to provide the City with

the Corps' GIS data of the FNOD site upon request. Another figure in the new SMP will be one that shows areas of probable archeology/cultural resource significance. George said that this figure is helpful to the field crews.

MMRP Update

The Zapata contract ended in February. The new MMRP contract will be awarded in May. The new contract will address the following areas:

- Main Burning Ground – 7-8 grids left to investigate. George estimated 5-6 more months of work.
- NRB
- TCC Lake – magnetic anomalies need to be investigated
- J-Lake – magnetic anomalies need to be investigated
- North Athletic Field/Renovation Plant – a little bit of reworking
- AOC 8 and 9 (near Streeter Creek) SI construction support

George said that the Corps will mail the SMPs to the RAB within a couple of weeks.

Environmental Studies Update (Jeff Zoeckler, USACE)

Arsenic Investigation Area (AOC 22) Site Screening Plan Investigation

Jeff showed a site map of AOC 22. Arsenic has been detected in groundwater in a few monitoring wells. The national drinking water standard is now 10 ppb. Cherie asked about the background level of arsenic in this area. Jeff said that the background study level for arsenic is zero but it did not include wells from this area. Jeff said that the Corps is evaluating whether the arsenic level being detected here is naturally occurring. The purpose of this investigation is also to further assess the occurrence of arsenic in the groundwater and to determine if a source exists. All four phases of the field investigation have been completed.

Phase 1 Results – MW-26 had the highest detections of arsenic with 70.5 ppb (total) and 67.9 ppb (dissolved), GE-MW-18A had detections of 13.8 ppb (total) and 11 ppb (dissolved), MW-27 had detections of 32.6 ppb (total) and 5.8 ppb (dissolved), and other detections included GE-MW-21 at 6.4 ppb, and MW-28 at 5.4 ppb.

Phase 2 Results – Soil –Some metals such as lead and iron detections exceeded EPA Region 3 Risk-Based Concentrations but were not above background levels. Arsenic concentrations were below background in every sample. Groundwater –Arsenic was detected in total phase in 2 temporary wells with detections of 18 ppb and 44.7 ppb. One of these temporary wells also had a detection of 11 ppb in the dissolved phase. The Corps decided to resample monitoring wells MW-26 and MW-27. MW-26 had an arsenic detection of 9.7 ppb (total). MW-27 had an arsenic detection of 53.9 ppb (total) and 50.6 ppb (dissolved).

Phase 3 –Well Installation -The Corps installed 5 more monitoring wells to try to establish a boundary around the total and dissolved phase arsenic detections. Jeff showed the RAB the locations of the new wells.

Phase 4- Groundwater Sampling –The Corps has completed sampling but is waiting for the results from this effort.

Bob Williams asked if the Corps was seeing any tidal influence in the groundwater here. Jeff said “yes”. Jeff said that the Corps would be able to discuss the final sampling results from this site at the next RAB meeting.

TNT Area (Source Area 1) Monitored Natural Attenuation (MNA) Evaluation

There was a source of bulk crystalline TNT here, which the Corps subsequently removed. This source created a soil and groundwater issue that the Corps continues to evaluate. Jeff showed the RAB where the crystalline TNT had been removed on an older aerial photo. The general direction of groundwater flows to the northeast here. The Corps has done several rounds of groundwater sampling at this site. The last round of sampling was conducted in 2006 and the results were briefed to the RAB in September 2006. Data from this sampling effort showed that TNT and DNT concentrations were decreasing in the two wells that had historically exhibited the highest concentrations. Recent data shows a slight increase in TNT and DNT down-gradient from MW-16. It appears that both degradation and dispersion of the groundwater contaminants are occurring, with contaminant concentrations dropping around the former source area and a diluted plume edge extending further down-gradient.

The Corps has collected some biological data from biotrap samplers that were installed in several wells in November and December 2006. The data indicates that there are relatively diverse microbial populations in the groundwater at the site. There was a 1 to 2 fold increase in biomass in the wells where the biotrap were baited with molasses. It appears that there are variable microbial growth rates at different well locations. The Corps has concluded that MNA is a viable alternative. Jeff said that this alternative warrants a full evaluation in pilot studies or the Feasibility Study.

Overall the concentrations of TNT and DNT are decreasing at the former source area over time. TNT may be degrading to DNT. Down-gradient migration of explosive compounds is still occurring. Chemical oxidation does not appear to be as efficient as other remediation technology alternatives at this site. This is because the plume is spreading, and it would require a lot of injection points, compared to other alternatives that will work just as well. Chemical oxidation will not be as cost-effective. Jeff said that the Corps will also evaluate a pump and treat technology as a possible alternative. This is where you actually physically pump the groundwater out and treat it and then discharge it. Bea asked if this site would ever be used for residential. Jeff said that because munitions have been discovered on this site, it couldn't be used for residential. A land use restriction prohibiting access to the groundwater may be all that is necessary at this site. With groundwater modeling, if the Corps can demonstrate that the contaminants have not yet reached the river or the furthest down-gradient point, and whether a groundwater use or land use restriction may be all that is required. Another possibility would be an annual monitoring program, where the Corps would sample the wells once a year or once every two years to make sure that the contaminants have not migrated. Any continuing migration, depending on the levels of contamination, could end up triggering additional Corps remedial actions.

Hydrogeologic Conceptual Site Model (CSM) Update

The Corps has received comments from EPA on the draft CSM document. The final document should be completed very soon. The major findings have not changed in terms of the groundwater flow direction and velocity. This model may now be used as the basis for more site-specific groundwater fate and transport models such as in the TNT area and the arsenic investigation area.

Nansemond River Beachfront (NRB) Shoreline Stabilization Study Update

The Corps needs to stabilize the shoreline at the Nansemond River Beachfront before conducting the munitions removal efforts there. Surface erosion control is needed in the nearshore and bluff area and energy dissipation will probably be required in the offshore area. The shoreline stabilization study is about 75% complete. The Corps will be conducting an aerial reconnaissance survey of the existing shoreline condition within the next couple of weeks to serve as a future baseline. Conceptual designs will then be developed and evaluated. The Corps wants to make sure that when they are doing the munitions removal work at the NRB, significant portions will not wash out into the river.

Munitions Update

Main Burning Ground –There are 8 grids left to go. Since the last RAB, the contractor completed 2 grids and removed 31 discarded military munitions items, 6,041 lbs of munitions debris (small arms and empty rounds), and 8,400 lbs of scrap. George showed the RAB photos of the site after the munitions team demobilized, including: the former DMM magazine area and storage compound for non-munitions equipment, the Main Burning Ground, and the fencing that was installed at the NRB last October.

David Saunders asked about erosion near the Monitor Merrimac Bridge. The Corps is handling the erosion control for the NRB and James River Beachfront separately but is conducting surveys of both beachfronts at the same time. Cherie asked if ATF requirements apply at Superfund sites. She said that she learned recently that if you use binaries, you are considered by ATF to be a manufacturer of explosives and need a license. She said she would send the citation to George so he could have his munitions people look into it. She said that if they are used by government or military personnel, this ATF rule doesn't apply. But if civilians or contractors use it, she wasn't sure if it applied because of the site's Superfund status. Rob Thompson reported that Harry Wheeler, the EPA contractor has left Tech Law and will no longer be working at FNOD. Harry will be missed. Bruce asked about the status of the water treatment plant (located on TCC property) and whether it was still there. Bruce reminded the RAB about the security issues out there. George said that TCC had cut all the trees around the tank to prevent kids from climbing up the trees to get on top of the tank. George also said that this is TCC's responsibility/liability. George said that the Corps wrote a letter to TCC to notify them of the potential hazard there. Bob asked if there would be any ongoing archeological work at the NRB this summer. George replied that there won't be a formal dig.

Public Comments

Jason Greene asked about the Triangle Area location and about the purpose of the RAB. Explanations were provided for both questions.

Action items:

- Corps to Mail Site Management Plans to RAB members
- Flyer for RAB recruiting effort

Next FNOD RAB Meeting

- June 7, Bon Secours, 6:15 p.m.

Agenda items for the next RAB meeting:

- AOC 22 Update
- NRB shoreline stabilization Plan
- RAB Recruiting
- MMRP update
- Funding Update

Others Present: George Mears Jeff Zoeckler Gerry Rogers Hamid Rafiee Shana Douglas Bill Hudson Harry Wheeler Art Collins Jason Greene Stephanie Heintz	Affiliation: USACE, Project Manager USACE, Project Engineer USACE, Public Affairs USACE, Baltimore District USACE contractor EPA Community Involvement Tech Law Hampton Roads Planning District Comm VDEQ Daily Press
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